2025-2026 High-Quality Prekindergarten Family Engagement Plan
East Fort Worth Montessori Academy (EFWMA)

Our Mission & Vision
We partner with families to provide a high-quality, purposeful, and engaging early childhood experience. Through collaborative relationships, we build the foundational academic, social, and emotional skills every child needs for their future.

Legal Foundation & Philosophy
In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.168 and Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §102.1003, EFWMA has developed this Family Engagement Plan to achieve and maintain high levels of family involvement. We embrace the individuality of each family and promote a child-centered, age-appropriate learning culture. Building strong, authentic partnerships ensures that every child is encouraged, supported, and challenged to reach their highest potential.

This plan is based on the six family engagement strategies established by the Texas Education Agency and provides a framework for continuous evaluation and improvement, as mandated by TAC §102.1003(h).

Strategies in Action
(1) Facilitating Family-to-Family Support
We create a safe and respectful environment where families build community and learn from one another.

- Pre-Kindergarten Meet the Teacher: A beginning-of-year event for incoming families to connect with staff and other families, fostering a supportive network before the school year begins. It aligns with our district's five-year district strategic goals.
- Curriculum Nights and Connections: Quarterly formal meetings to share data, quarterly standards taught, and standards for the new quarter. Academic demonstrations and shared resources help parents understand early childhood learning standards and developmental plans.
- Room Parent Program: Each early childhood classroom has a room parent to assist the teacher with coordinating events and welcoming incoming families attending EWMA for the first time.
- Festival of Lights Celebration Night: An event for families to share their heritage, promoting cultural exchange and understanding.

- Family Engagement Workshops: Topics based on family interest surveys (example: The Power of Rest, Imaginative Play, Practical Life Skills, and Disciplining with Love and Logic).
- Room Parents Family Events: We create family events designed to build community and encourage collaborative volunteering.

(2) Establishing a Network of Community Resources
We build strategic partnerships to leverage community assets and support the whole child and family.

- Community Resource Hub: A dedicated room in the district for local health, mental wellness, and library services.
- Public Library Partnerships: Collaborative story times and library card registration drives.
- First Responder Partnerships: Coordination with local fire and police departments for safety education and community bonding.
- EFWMA Bagpack Program: Partnership with local organizations to provide resources like food, snacks, and school supplies for families in need.
- Transition Support: "Kinder Round-Up," a garden event to ease the transition from Pre-K to Kindergarten.
- Language Access: Partnership with the ESL Department to ensure all materials are translated and interpreters are available for meetings and events.

(3) Increasing Family Participation in Decision-Making
We cultivate family leadership and ensure families are active partners in shaping our program.

- EFWMA Sitebase Room Parents Committee: Includes parent representatives to advise on district-wide goals and programs. The committee utilizes annual surveys to gather qualitative feedback on program practices, policies, and communications.
- Early Childhood Room Parents Committee: A committee of Pre-K families that meets quarterly to review program effectiveness and provide direct feedback on this Family Engagement Plan.
- Committee Representation: Ensuring robust parent representation on the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) and Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee.

(4) Equipping Families with Tools to Enhance and Extend Learning
We recognize families as their child's first and most important teachers and empower them with high-quality resources.

- EFWMA Monthly Dove Letter to Family: Families receive monthly informative newsletters.
- Google Classroom: A centralized online hub for age-appropriate developmental information, activity calendars, and learning resources.

- Take Home Learning Bags: Thematic bags available for check-out, containing books and hands-on manipulatives to extend classroom learning.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences: Hold quarterly conferences to collaborate on student progress and set learning goals, utilizing data from CLI Engage and other progress monitoring tools.
- Montessori Workshops: In-person and virtual sessions demonstrating how to make and see everyday home items as Montessori materials to create learning opportunities at home .

(5) Developing Staff Skills in Evidence-Based and Family-Centered Practices
We invest in continuous professional learning to ensure staff are equipped to build effective family partnerships.

- Responsive Communication Training: Annual, mandatory PD for all early childhood staff on building trust and effective communication with diverse families.
- Family Engagement as a Core Strategy: Embedding family partnership goals into campus improvement plans and staff evaluations.
- Region 11 ESC Partnerships: Continuous professional learning on PK Guidelines, curriculum, and evidence-based instructional strategies.
- Instructional Coaching: Coaching cycles with Learning Coaches and Family Engagement Specialists to refine partnership strategies.
- Trauma-Informed Practices: Training on supporting families in crisis and understanding adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).
- Utilization of Assessment Platforms: Ongoing training on using CLI Engage and other data platforms to facilitate meaningful conversations with families about student progress.

(6) Evaluating Family Engagement Efforts and Using Evaluation for Continuous Improvement
We employ a cyclical evaluation process to ensure our program remains responsive and effective.

- Annual Family Survey: A comprehensive EOY survey to measure family perception of program quality and engagement effectiveness. Results are analyzed and published in the principal's newsletter.
- Annual Program Evaluation: A formal EOY evaluation of the Family Engagement Plan, using data to set improvement goals for the subsequent school year completed by the SiteBase Comittee.
- Needs Assessment: An annual survey to identify district-wide family needs and inform budget and resource allocation.
- Data-Driven Monitoring: Quantitative tracking of family participation in events and qualitative analysis of feedback from conferences and committees.

- High-Quality Benchmarks: Utilization of the TEA's "High-Quality Pre-Kindergarten Self-Assessment" and Region 11's "High-Quality Checklist for Family Engagement" to guide improvement.
- Public Reporting: Commitment to transparency by publishing annual evaluation results and providing a direct link to the Texas Early Childhood Data System (TECDS) Public Report on our district website for SY25-26 and beyond, as required by TAC §102.1003(h).

Family Engagement Contacts

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Texas Early Childhood Data System (TECDS) Public Report:
https://tecds.tea.texas.gov